





Cornelius Crane  
Born June 29, 1905  
Died 1962





The first Crane Beach Picnic was held on July 1, 1911,  
in celebration of Cornelius Crane's 6th birthday.





Early Crane Beach picnics were held on Steephill Beach, part of the Cranes' Castle Hill property.



The United Shoe Machinery Band played music; the Cranes' yacht crew acted as lifeguards.





The Crane family invited 800  
Ipswich school children to the first  
Crane Beach Picnic.



They set up tents and served box  
lunches to all the children.



**STEAMBOAT CARLOTTA  
SCHOOL PICNIC  
CRANE'S BEACH  
JUNE 29, 1912  
GOING**

Children were transported on the  
steamship Carlotta...

**PICNIC** *July 1st*  
**CASTLE HILL**  
**SATURDAY, JULY 1, 1911**  
**RETURNING**  
**BARGES**  
WILL COMMENCE TO RETURN  
AT 2.30 P. M.

**NO 829** **PICNIC**  
**CASTLE HILL**  
**SATURDAY, JULY 1, 1911**  
**GOING**  
**BARGES**  
WILL COMMENCE TO LEAVE  
SCHOOLS AT 9 A. M.

...or by special wagons  
called "barges."





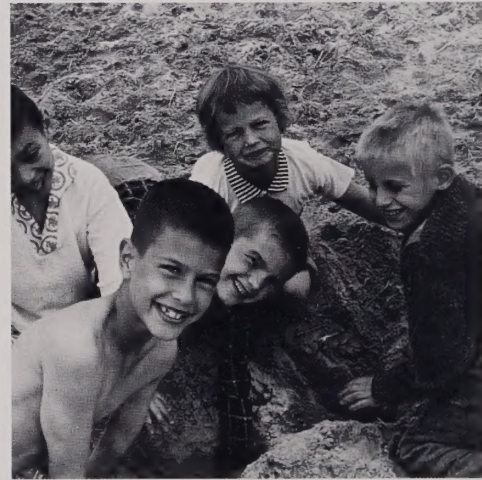
This celebratory day would be the beginning of a long tradition, thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Richard T. Crane, Jr.





The fiftieth anniversary of the Crane Beach Picnic  
was on June 9, 1961.





When Cornelius grew older, the Crane family set up a fund to keep the beach picnic tradition alive.





Each June, at the end of the school year, Ipswich school children go to Crane Beach for the day.





Crane Beach Picnic was moved from Steephill Beach to Crane Beach prior to 1961.





On the fiftieth anniversary, children built sand forts and played games.





1,700 children from the elementary, junior high, and high schools enjoyed a day at the beach.





On the fiftieth anniversary, it was 58 degrees and foggy.





The one hundredth anniversary of Crane Beach Picnic was on June 20, 2011.





Most children arrived by bus or parent or participated in the Middle School road race, "Run for the Sun/Stride for the Tide".





It was a beautiful sunny day.





Each child received a commemorative 100th anniversary t-shirt.





Children whose birthday was within a week of Cornelius Crane's June 29th birth date arrived by landing craft.





1,500 children from the elementary and middle schools enjoyed the day at the beach.





They built sand forts, played games, and swam.





White Farms created and served "Cornelius Crunch" ice cream, courtesy of The Trustees of Reservations.





A replica of the 1838 Ipswich Lighthouse was erected.  
A lighthouse keeper and Crane family reenactors performed.



Crane descendants: Adolfo Bezamat; Casey, Taylor, and Ashleigh Gernander; and Tatiana Bezamat (Cornelius' niece).





1911 - 2011



**The children of Ipswich thank the Crane family on the 100th anniversary of the Crane Beach Picnic, marking Cornelius Crane's birthday**

Thank you to The Trustees of Reservations archives, Informedia, and Julia Zhogina for photographic images.











